

AGENDA SUMMARY PAGE - PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING OF: JULY 9, 2009

DEPARTMENT: PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

DIRECTOR: M. MARGO WHEELER

☐ Consent ☒ Discussion

SUBJECT:

GPA-34613 - GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT - PUBLIC HEARING -
APPLICANT/OWNER: CITY OF LAS VEGAS - Request to adopt an updated Economic Development Element and revise the 2020 Master Plan

C.C.: 08/05/2009

PROTESTS RECEIVED BEFORE:

Planning Commission Mtg.

0

City Council Meeting

0

APPROVALS RECEIVED BEFORE:

Planning Commission Mtg.

0

City Council Meeting

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RECOMMENDATION:

APPROVAL

BACKUP DOCUMENTATION:

1. Conditions (Not Applicable) and Staff Report
2. Supporting Documentation
3. Justification Letter
4. Executive Summary Draft
5. Economic Development Element DRAFT

Motion made by VICKI QUINN to Approve

Passed For: 5; Against: 1; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 1
MICHAEL E. BUCKLEY, VICKI QUINN, BYRON GOYNES, GLENN TROWBRIDGE,
STEVEN EVANS; (Against-RICHARD TRUESDELL); (Abstain-None); (Did Not Vote-None);
(Excused-KEEN ELLSWORTH)

Minutes:

CHAIR TROWBRIDGE declared the Public Hearing open.

FLINN FAGG, Planning and Development, recognized STEVE SWANTON and RICHARD WASSMUTH, both from Planning and Development, for the excellent work in compiling documentation for Items 32 and 33.

Using the PowerPoint presentation included in the backup, MR. FAGG reviewed the Economic Development Element, which was originally adopted by the City of Las Vegas in 1992. Since then, Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) has changed its requirements as to what the document should contain. The purpose of this Element update is to recommend strategies and actions to

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implement policies and goals within the Las Vega 2020 Master Plan. In addition, the Element entails the financing sources for the capital improvement projects. With an approval of the revised document, the City's Master Plan will finally be in compliance with NRS, specifically all 18 Elements.

There are five recommendations staff envisions implementing over the next five years: a) utilize alternative funding sources for capital improvement projects, b) evaluate the capital improvement plan on an annual basis to identify those projects that are relevant and/or those no longer needed, c) examine the fee structure and identify potential opportunities to assign fees to a broader range of services, d) work with the private sector in developing public art and activity nodes and e) continue to add parks and open space to provide this necessary recreation for Las Vegas residents.

TODD FARLOW questioned what other fees sources are available. MR. FAGG replied that there are stimulus funds, State grants for streetscape improvements and public private partnerships. MR. FARLOW disagreed, in that he believed funding is possible through property taxes, considering the services provided by the city.

COMMISSIONER TRUESDELL commented on the fact that this is a great city; however, taxes/fees are increasing and becoming very expensive to the business clientele. He was concerned that the environment for recruiting jobs/businesses can become unfriendly. He recognizes the City of Las Vegas' efforts in cutting costs and critiquing its budget, but businesses and residents are being hammered financially. He found it difficult to support this Element, considering the language entailed within the Element. CHAIR TROWBRIDGE believed recommendation number three was fair and recommendation number one, alternative funding sources was the most significant one and appropriate. Given the state of the economy, eliminating the service being provided or increasing property taxes would be less desirable.

CHAIR TROWBRIDGE declared the Public Hearing closed.